

September 9, 1999

a trusted adviser and friend and to congratulate him on a job well done.

CLEVELAND CLINIC CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL FOR REHABILITATION

HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I announce the renaming of Health Hill Hospital for Children to the Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital for Rehabilitation.

Since 1998, Health Hill Hospital for Children has been part of the Cleveland Clinic Health System. Devoted entirely to pediatric development, Health Hill has one of the largest teams of pediatric therapists in the nation. In addition to being one of the world's preeminent medical research and educational facilities, the Cleveland Clinic Health System is northeast Ohio's foremost provider of comprehensive medical and rehabilitative services to children requiring long-term treatment. Not only does the hospital's pediatric staff provide excellent care to critically ill and disabled children, but they do so in a comforting and caring environment that eases the children's fears and worries.

The primary goal for Health Hill is to create a more independent lifestyle for these children and their families. For example, by providing unique programs, like the Day Hospital Program, children can receive daily intensive therapy without having to be hospitalized. Day Hospital patients receive therapy, nursing and medical care, yet are able to return home to their families each evening and weekend. Providing patients with the opportunity to maintain their routines and home lives is so important in making a sick child feel as "normal" as possible. The hospital serves children with a variety of illnesses, ranging from spinal cord and head injuries, respiratory problems, feeding disorders, and burns to chronic or congenital medical conditions.

Mr. Speaker, Health Hill Hospital has proven to be more than just a "hospital." Their commitment to providing the highest standards of medical services for special needs children is why they continue to be a shining example of one of the best children's specialty hospitals. Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital for Rehabilitation is affiliated with the renowned Cleveland Clinic Foundation, ranked among the ten best hospitals in the nation by U.S. News and World Report's annual guide to "America's Best Hospitals." It is exciting to see the resources of this prestigious hospital devoted to the care of children.

Again, I am honored to announce the Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital for Rehabilitation's new designation, and commend the Foundation's outstanding achievements throughout the past 78 years.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

JACK LASKOWSKI: A TRUE
LEADER WILL BE DEARLY MISSED

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, on August 8, 1999, friends, family and brothers and sisters of the United Auto Workers lost a great man with the passing of Jack Laskowski. For more than 40 years, he worked in the automotive industry from his first days at General Motors Powertrain in Bay City to his more recent position as a Vice President for the UAW, and the lead negotiator with DaimlerChrysler.

It has been my privilege to know Jack Laskowski. As my mentor, he helped me to truly understand the importance of staying connected with the people we represent. As a friend, he has helped me and so many others understand that anything worth having is worth fighting for as a matter of principle. He carried that attitude throughout everything he did.

A UAW Member since 1958, Jack was elected to Local 362's bargaining committee in 1965. The Committee was headed by his father, Walter "Bullet" Laskowski, who himself was the Local's first chairman and participated in the 1936 strike at the plant that led to the formation of the Local. Jack was also interested in politics and served a term as a City Commissioner of Bay City from 1968 through 1971. In 1982, Jack was named regional director and, in 1992, he was elected as the Director of UAW Region 1D. He was then elected Vice President of the United Auto Workers at its 31st Constitutional Convention in 1995.

Jack Laskowski had a tremendous ability to understand and appreciate the problems that people face in their every day lives. Whether it was the need for a better wage, safer working conditions, or helping his union brothers and sisters deal with the needs of their children, Jack Laskowski could always be counted on to be part of the solution.

Those of us in public office in Michigan knew how important and vital help from Jack Laskowski could be. He looked at politics as an important extension of his efforts to help make life better for his union brothers and sisters. Some things the company and union could do. Other things needed help from the government. It was part of his life's work to make sure that government knew what Jack's brothers and sisters needed.

Jack could not have achieved these great accomplishments without the support of his loving family and is survived by his wife Sally, and his sons Greg, Tim and Mike.

Mr. Speaker, throughout our lives we may be fortunate to meet precious few people who make a real difference, and who deserve to be admired. For me, Jack Laskowski was such a man. Jack may no longer be with us, but the glories of his work will continue to benefit workers for years to come. I ask you and all of our colleagues to join me in honoring this wonderful gentleman, and in offering our condolences to this family following their loss of this true leader.

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RECOGNIZING THE "SUITING UP
FOR SUCCESS" PROJECT FOR
STUDENTS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Suiting Up for Success project, which is a professional attire drive that benefits successful Fresno City College welfare-to-work students. The kick-off event will be on September 21, 1999.

In 1998, management consultant and human resource specialist, Sue McCombs of McCombs & Associates created "Suiting Up for Success", in response to the Central San Joaquin Valley communities double digit unemployment rates. "Suiting Up for Success" is a professional attire drive that benefits successful Fresno City College welfare-to-work students that has approximately 1,000 students enrolled. Last year, 3,000 suits were collected. The 1999 goal is to collect 5,000 suits. All Fresno area business professionals are challenged to donate unwanted men's and women's suits, blouses, skirts, men's shirts, slacks and ties. Business attire collected is made available through a "professional closet" operated and maintained by Welfare-to-Work Students. The only beneficiaries of the "Suiting Up for Success" campaign are successful Fresno City College Welfare Reform students (graduates).

The project goals are to increase awareness of the welfare reform initiative and its impact on business owners. To provide our employees the opportunity to support and participate in the local welfare reform initiative. And to support and encourage current Fresno City College welfare program participants.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the "Suiting Up for Success" project, as they reach out to students who are less fortunate to have professional attire. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing "Suiting Up for Success" many more years of continued success.

HONORING MTSU FOOTBALL'S
ADVANCEMENT TO DIVISION 1-A
STATUS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Middle Tennessee State University football team's advancement into Division 1-A play, which officially took place on September 1. The move is one the university, its faculty and staff, its students, its alumni, and the entire MTSU community can relish.

The Blue Raiders football program has put 17 players into the National Football League. The program has also produced 20 All-American players and 14 Ohio Valley Conference "Players of the Year."

MTSU football reached a number of milestones while competing as a Division 1-AA team in the Ohio Valley Conference. The team

drew a school and OVC record 27,568 fans for the 1998 home opener against Tennessee State University. It ranked fourth in attendance nationally in Division 1-AA in 1998. And the university has a new football stadium that can handle nearly 31,000 fans to usher in its Division 1-A play. Coach "Boots" Donnelly also ended a stellar career (136-81-1) with MTSU at the conclusion of the 1998 season.

As a Division 1-AA football team, MTSU finished in the top 10 of the national polls on 10 different occasions, taking the Number 1 final ranking in 1985 and 1990. And under legendary coach Charles "Bubber" Murphy, the MTSU Blue Raiders football team participated in the 1956 Refrigerator Bowl, the 1960 and 1961 Tangerine bowls, and the 1964 Grantland Rice Bowl.

I congratulate the university's move into the highly competitive Division 1-A football arena and wish each and every player, coach and fan good luck in this debut season.

HONORING THOMAS J.
D'ALESSANDRO III

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, Loyola College in Baltimore took the occasion to honor one of its most distinguished sons, and one of Baltimore's most distinguished citizens. On May 18, Loyola presented its President's Medal for 1999 to Thomas J. D'Alessandro III.

Baltimore has a rich and proud political history, full of leaders who have served our community with distinction. It is no small honor, then, to be designated as the "First Political Family of Baltimore." Yet the D'Alessandro's would certainly be at the top of any list of nominees.

Tommy D'Alessandro, Jr., the father of Tommy III served as Mayor of Baltimore, and later was elected to this House. His wife Nancy was a political force in her own right, and a major player in Democratic politics in the city.

When it came time for the next generation to step up, they did so with energy and dedication. Tommy was elected to the City Council, served as its president, and then was elected Mayor of Baltimore. During his time of leadership in city government, Baltimore, like most major cities across the country, went through trying times as the civil rights movement expanded.

The major civil rights legislation of the mid-60s, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 represented an earthquake in American politics, and nowhere was this more true than in our great urban centers. Municipal leaders across the country faced challenges that required courage and a firm adherence to principles of democratic government.

As Mayor and as president of the city council, Tommy D'Alessandro showed himself to be up to the task. He shepherded Baltimore's own Civil Rights Act through the city council. In this action, as in so many of his decisions

in public life, he was guided by the moral principles that were instilled in him during his years studying under the Jesuits at Loyola College.

Mr. Speaker, any discussion of the political accomplishments of the D'Alessandro family would be sadly incomplete without an accounting of the family's spread across the continent. As a son of Baltimore, I am proud to note that the D'Alessandro family's talent for leadership, which we have long come to appreciate in our city, are now well known on the West Coast. I am speaking, of course, of our distinguished colleague from the San Francisco Bay area.

Nancy Pelosi, my good friend, who represents California's Eighth Congressional District, is the sister of Tommy D'Alessandro. In her commitment to human rights and democracy around the world, and her fierce adherence to the values of working class Americans, she shows the same approach to politics that served her brother and her father so well in Baltimore. It is truly the case that the "D'Alessandro Way"—the "Baltimore Way"—has undergone a successful transplant in northern California.

In honoring Tommy D'Alessandro III with the President's Medal, Loyola College bestowed a great and well-deserved honor on a great son of a great Baltimore political family. The text that accompanied the presentation of the President's Medal cited Tommy D'Alessandro for "his historic contributions to civic life in Baltimore, for the integrity and conviction of his principles, and for his life lived by the highest ideals of service to humankind." The words are true, and the honor is richly deserved. I am truly pleased to take this opportunity to join in offering my heart-felt congratulations to Tommy and to the entire D'Alessandro family.

CONGRATULATIONS ON GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, German-American Day will be celebrated on October 6, 1999 with festivities all over the nation.

German-American Day honors all Americans of German descent and their contributions to the life and culture of the United States and October 6, 1999 once again calls attention to this vital ethnic group and its continuing work and efforts in support of the democratic principles of this country and its commitment to the improvement of the quality of life in the United States.

The first German immigrants arrived at Penn's landing in Philadelphia in 1683. They had been invited to come to the New World by the William Penn, and arrived under the leadership of Daniel Pastorius, to settle in Germantown in Pennsylvania. They proved indeed to be valuable assets to their new homeland. The achievements of German immigrants are legion. Famous names like Carl Schurz, Baron von Steuben, Levy Strauss, John Jacob Astor, Peter Zenger, and more recently Albert Einstein and Henry Kissinger are testimony of Germany-American industriousness, loyalty and contributions.

Congratulations to all Americans of German descent on this important day.

RECOGNITION OF THE ALEXANDER MACOMB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the March of Dimes 1999 Alexander Macomb Citizens of the year. Beginning in 1984, a group of leading Macomb county citizens instituted the "Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year" award. The award was named after General Alexander Macomb, the county's namesake, who was a hero of the War of 1812, repelling a superior invading force at Lake Plattsburgh, NY, which kept the United States borders intact. Since the inception of the award, over \$500,000 has been generated for the Macomb County March of Dimes.

The Alexander Macomb Award is presented annually to deserving individuals who have demonstrated outstanding contributions and commitment to improving the quality of life in his/her community, the county and the State of Michigan. One of the three to be honored is attorney, mother and community activist Deborah O'Brian, Esq. Mrs. O'Brian has been active in the city of St. Clair Shores through her local parade committee, the Miss St. Clair Shores Scholarship Pageant, and the Little Miss St. Clair Shores Pageant. She helped plan, raise funds for, the cohost the St. Clair Shores Cops for Kids Telethon, which raised more than \$35,000 in support of kids 12 and under. Mrs. O'Brian participated in the Prosecutor in School Program of the 40th District Court in 1998-1999 and is involved with the Kiwanis Club's "Say No to Drugs" program. In addition to her civic commitments, she uses her legal expertise to help others through the Macomb County Bar Association Pro Bono Services.

I am proud to join the March of Dimes in honoring Mrs. Deborah O'Brian, as a Macomb County Citizen of the year.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT. 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2684) making appropriations for the Department of Veteran Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Chairman, as the daughter of a veteran, I rise in support of the